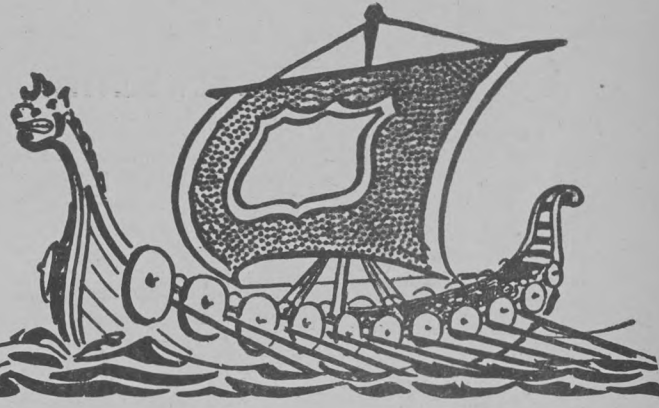




# Scandinavian Centre News



PUBLISHED BY THE SCANDINAVIAN CENTRE CO-OPERATIVE ASSOCIATION

VOL. 8 NO. 3

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MARCH, 1968

## GREAT - SCANDAPADES '68

### BEHIND THE SCANDAPADES CURTAIN BY HARV HAUGEN

The hustle and bustle of all the people getting ready to do their part in Scandapades 101, everybody in the makeup room at the same time . . . will we ever be ready to go on in time . . . the pit orchestra under the direction of Mrs. Lily Boyer started playing right at 7:30 . . . Come on hurry up! We've got to get ready . . . The stage manager looks like he is about to start pulling his hair . . . but wait a minute, let's go back to those first rehearsals before Christmas in the Scandinavian Centre when Bud D'Amur the director said, "I am not here to make you like me, but you can be sure as h . . . we're going to do a good show." Was he right . . . the next two hours will be the proof . . . the many long hours of rehearsals, the many times Bud said to do it over . . . do it with some life in it . . . the people are not going to believe it if you don't, so get with it ACT! ACT. ACT! . . . and then the drills for the opening and the closing . . . will we ever get them right . . . and all the time Bud wants us to look like we're enjoying this . . . well I guess we are . . . the overture is finished and the narrator Don Shaw steps in front of the curtain to introduce the president of the Scandinavian Centre, Mr. Bill Halldorson . . . and behind the curtain the work lights go out . . . well it's now or never . . . are the people out front . . . is the house full . . .

I as the stage manager and Betty Travis, the assistant stage manager trying to get everybody into their place for the opening . . . the stage lights are beginning to come on . . . there go the musicians and the kids to dance around the May Pole . . . now everybody goes out . . . THE SHOW HAS STARTED !! Well it was a good show . . . and from my position on stage right everybody was smiling . . . everybody was ready to go on in time . . . just like they had been doing this everyday.

Although it is impossible to name all of you, who were a part of the show, anyway you know who you are and what you did to make this the very best Scandapades that we have ever had . . . All the performers whether from the Swedes, Icelanders, Norwegians, the Finns or the Danes put their hearts and souls into this show . . . and it showed . . . it was easy to see that everybody was

### SCANDINAVIAN EXHIBITS - MRS. LINA HOLGERSEN, HAANDARBEJDER

An exhibition of Scandinavian crafts and design were shown on the lower floor in the Jubilee Auditorium to the delight of many.

On display were "HAANDARBEJDER" of typical Scandinavian design in items of beautiful embroidery, knitting, applique, crocheting and painting together with the century old crafts of pottery, rug making and weaving. Demonstrations were conducted for each craft during the evening. Special thanks go out to the following people for their time and effort which made this exhibition so worthwhile.

Mrs. O. Paulsen, Mrs. Tove Paulsen, Mrs. A. Jorgensen and Mrs. Ella Love for their display of embroidery, knitting and crocheting. To Mrs. Eric Erickson for the wall hanging made in applique, to Mrs. Bergit Fisher for the weaving demonstration, to Mrs. Pat Dietrich for the rug making demonstration, to Mrs. Margrete Mertensen, Devon for her display of paintings and prints and to Mr. W. Arason for

having a good time both on stage and in the audience . . . and that is what it takes to make a successful evening.

But wait haven't we forgotten somebody? How about all the mothers and fathers who made sure that we were there . . . that all the costumes were cleaned and pressed and those special people, the stage hands who moved the piano and the mikes on and off . . . the portable stages that were built just for the show . . . these had to be assembled and all the equipment set up . . . then moved on and off with a minimum of disturbance . . . YES we owe these people a big vote of thanks too. They as much as the performers did their part to make our show a success.

Just one more minute . . . how about the wonderful people who worked so hard with the various dance groups . . . we'd best not forget them . . . they did a marvelous job and all the dances were just about perfect.

How about next year . . . are we just going to sit on our laurels and say, well, we did it last year . . . let someone else do it this year . . . NO . . . I don't think that we would ever do that . . . and next year I am sure that I will see every one of you out again . . . to help make SCANDAPADES 102 another roaring success just like SCANDAPADES 101 - Harv Haugen.

the demonstration of "How to Make Pottery."

#### COMMERCIAL DISPLAY

Beautiful and colorful displays were set up by some of our Scandinavian Businessmen in Edmonton. A hearty thanks goes out to the following people who responded so enthusiastically to the invitation sent out to all Scandinavian Businesses by the Danish Vice Consul Mr. Knud Holm Pedersen.

Mrs. A. Hansen, Klondike Gardens; Mrs. Sorensen, Sorensens Dress Design; Mr. Otto Von Rosen, Scandinavian Airlines System; Mrs. Scott, Edmonton Yarn Barn, Anns Bakery, Ericas Delicatessen.

A lot of interest has been shown for this exhibition of Scandinavian Crafts by both Scandinavians and non Scandinavians. May we as one of many ethnic groups in Canada preserve our culture for generations to come, by contributing our share to form our Canadian culture.

Mrs. Crystal Macdonald Fleuty's Crystal Singers and the three Fleuty sisters once again added their talents to the Scandapades programme and drew many compliments on their excellent performance.

#### SAS OFFERS FREE

##### TRAVEL PLANNER

Scandinavian Airlines has prepared a colorful 24 page booklet of world vacations for the independent traveller. It contains a wide variety of information essential in planning vacations; including suggested itineraries for Scandinavia, all of Europe and around the world.

Titled "1968-69 Travel Planner" the booklet also includes facts such as economy and first class fares, a complete range of costs on land arrangements, departure dates and even a planning chart. The chart will enable the vacationer to list dates, arrangements and costs in chronological order.

It is designed to let the traveller or a family leisurely plan their vacation in the comfort of their home. The booklet is available free of charge for those interested by contracting your travel agent or local SAS office.

### THANK YOU'S FROM

#### Success To Scandapades in 1969!

The ANNUAL SCANDINAVIAN NIGHT COMMITTEE extend many thanks to all who participated in SCANDAPADES "101". Similar gratitudes are expressed from the performers to those who paid tribute to their efforts by attending the show. (The reward sought by all performers is a full house. This year had no disappointments.) Again "MANY THANKS"

The co-ordinator for the ANNUAL SCANDINAVIAN NIGHT extends his deepest appreciation to all who took their tasks in earnest

For those who did not know the committee members, let them be introduced.

Anders Anderson - Annual Scandinavian Night Co-ordinator.

Mrs. May Rushton - Secretary.  
Mrs. Louise Johnson - Assistant Secretary

Mr. Wallace Broen - Financial Director.

Mr. Knut Svidal - Publicity Director.

Mr. Otto Von Rosen - Programme Director.

Mr. John Rama - Ticket Sales Director.

Mr. Paul Karovonen - Lower Floor Entertainment Director.

Mrs. Lina Holgersen - Handicrafts Display Director.

Mrs. Ragna Sivertsen - Scandinavian Cafeteria Director.

Mr. Harv Haugen - Cultural Committee, Sons of Norway Lodge.

Mrs. Verna Larson - Cultural Committee, Vasa Lodge.

Mrs. Sirkka Ristola - Cultural Committee, Finnish Club.

Mrs. Ruth McNaughton - Cultural Committee, Icelandic Society.

Mr. Claus Jacobsen - Cultural Committee, Dania Club.

We must not forget the promotional assistance received by Mr. Hugh Currie and Mr. Wm. Colnett of the Hudson Bay Co., through the SALUTE SCANDINAVIAN WEEK on the Hudson Bay store premises.

Needless to say, the assistance derived from the Journal, CFRN Radio and Television and Sigurd Sorenson's weekly words from the Camrose radio station was unmeasurable.

Although Isobel Ford wrote the script and Bud D'Amur directed the show we must not forget that it was David Ward who conceived "Birth of a Second Century" as the theme.

Further color was added to the evening by the receptionists Mrs. Selma Sorenson, Mrs. Nanja Sahuri, Mrs. Tordis McRoberts and

### SCANDAPADES "101"

the hostesses: Miss Valerie Larson, Mrs. Verna Larson, Miss Linda Kjeersgaard, Miss Rocky Shore, Miss Nancy Matty.

Many more thanks go to Mrs. Linnea Lodge and Eric Pierre who on very short notice rushed in to man the ticket office in the auditorium.

Paul Karvonen thanks Mr. Vilho Ristola, Mr. Esko Salo and Mr. Armand Kauppilla for their willing and able assistance at the doors to the dance.

Mrs. Ragna Sivertsen also extends her appreciation to Mrs. Borgstrom, Mrs. Maisie Amdam, Mrs. Ida Paulson, Mrs. John Rama, Mrs. Emma Kragg and Mrs. J. Liimatainen who worked so diligently in the Scandinavian Cafeteria.

Also present and assisting was the SCANDINAVIAN CENTRE QUEEN, Miss Rita Salomaa and one princess representing the SONS OF NORWAY LODGE, Miss Arlene Amdam.

Let us hope that the other Scandinavian groups can find a matching representative in 1969.

The Scandinavian businessmen who so willingly purchased blocks of tickets are commended. It is support such as this that makes it possible for the committee to proceed with fewer financial worries. Thank you to Messrs. Roy Faltinson, Anders Aalborg, Earl Hansen, Donn Larson and Dr. C. Drensen and many more of those who purchased tickets knowing they could not attend.

In addition there were businesses that purchased blocks of tickets - Rudys Men's Wear, Hudson Bay Co., Simpsons Sears, Safeway and Pacific Western Airlines (Chartered Flights).

The winners of the TICKET SALES CAMPAIGN were: Team Captain - Mrs. Selma Sorenson, 390 Tickets; Team Member - Warren Clark for Sunray Lodge 263; Mrs. May Ruston, Vasa Lodge, 94; Mrs. Ila Hendriksen, Icelandic Society, 6; Mrs. Vera Nielsen, Dania Club, 78.

A bicycle, purchased from the Hudson Bay Co., was awarded to Anders Anderson, Jr., who won the art contest with his portrayal of the "VIKING SHIP AT DUSK", which will be exhibited with other entries at the Scandinavian Centre for the next month or so.



## ICELANDIC NEWSLETTER

Dr. and Mrs. Dummont, of Calgary had a week's holiday, taking in the pleasures of the ski slopes in Aspen, Colorado, recently and their children enjoyed the pleasures of visiting the home of their grandmother, Mrs. Ila Henrickson, while the parents were away.

Miss Corinne Arnfinnson was the reason d'être of a bridal shower given by Mrs. Walter Arason, on Friday, Feb. 23rd. A hostess of guests honored Miss Corinne with best wishes, good advice, and numerous lovely and useful gifts. Games and contests enlivened the hours of the evening, and the delicious lunch was served by the hostess assisted by the many willing hands, so frequently seen at such events. The bride-to-be voiced her appreciation of herself and her family for adding to the joy of her forthcoming marriage. We recall how graciously she represented the Icelandic Society on several occasions.

The women's association met at the home of Mrs. E. Valgardson, to hear a report of their many successful fund-raising affairs, and to take a good look into the future, making plans for more sociable gatherings. In the absence of the president, Mrs. Thora Orr, the discussions were general, and enthusiasm ran high for the pleasures of club activities. Much discussion took place, of having a new-members meeting in March. All interested ladies who wish to add their efforts in doing good for others should feel that this is an invitation to join, and express their willingness to join the friendly group. It was felt that the costumes of the Fjallkona needed a renovating improvement, so Mrs. Freda Smith was invited to supervise the change. Keep in mind the tea and Tombola which is in the process of planning. Details will be given later.

Rev. Haraldr Sigmar, Jr. of St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Vancouver, Washington, U.S.A., arrived in Edmonton, by air recently. He was in the city only a few hours, in his capacity of being a member of the Examining Board for Pastor Candidates. Mrs. Sigmar accompanied him only part of the way, as she was visiting their son and their new daughter-in-law. Rev. Sigmar carried the greetings of his mother, Mrs. Haraldr Sigmar, Sr., of Kelso, Washington, to her many friends here and there. She is scheduled to undergo major surgery in February and plans to be hospitalized near her daughter, Margaret. We offer combined good wishes to a dear and valued friend.

Recent visitors to Edmonton were the parents of Mr. Chris. Finnbogason, manager, of EMCO Ltd. Mr. and Mrs. G. Finnbogason, of Winnipeg. They were the guests of their son and his family and Mr. and Mrs. Bill Halldorson, who entertained them, bringing them to the Scandapades. They expressed their pleasure of seeing our beautiful auditorium and needless to say, they enjoyed the program, very much.

Also enjoying the hospitality of President Bill and his wife were Mr. and Mrs. Oli Kristjanson, of Hay River, on their way home from an extended trip which took them to B.C. and Manitoba.

Mrs. Halldorson's sister, Bertha, and her husband, Stan Tyndall, of Winnipeg motored to Edmonton to spend a week-end before returning

via Calgary, and to Lethbridge, to visit another sister, Mrs. Ellen McKittrick. Another surprise visit was from Jim Duncan, formerly of Lundar, but now residing in Rivers, Manitoba.

The annual Scandapades is now only a memory made more lasting because of the excellence of the entire program. The Icelandic Society was honorably represented by a well organized choir singing four lovely Icelandic songs. Mrs. Doreen Joachim made an attractive picture in her Icelandic costume prepared by Mrs. Freda Smith and Mrs. Ruth MacNaughton, and her singing was delightfully professional, and lyrical. It was gratifying to those of Icelandic origin to hear the orchestra render several Icelandic transcriptions, and also to see on the opening of the program two of our popular gentlemen, Mr. Bill Halldorson being introduced by the narrator of the evening, Mr. Don Shaw. The display of ceramic pottery making in the lower foyer by our successful Walter Arason was always a centre of interest. The entire venture is a concrete example of splendid co-operation of five ethnic groups, and much credit should be given all those behind the scenes who strive each year to surpass all former programs. Congratulations to all concerned.

Mr. and Mrs. Alez Mitchell and daughter, Gail, motored to Dawson Creek to attend the funeral of a valued old friend, Mr. Jim Hunter. Mr. Mitchell acted as one of the pall-bearers. They were guests of Mrs. Mitchell's mother, Mrs. Begga Paulson, and Gail had the unique opportunity of accompanying her uncle Frank Paulson on his rural mail route in weather which registered 50 degrees below. Brrr.

Mr. Frank Gislason, teacher in the Fort MacMurray trade school, with two of his friends travelled by plane for a two weeks holiday in the far south, spending time in Mexico, especially in Acapulco. He took the time off between classes and escaped the cold for a while, but admitted that his native Canada was all the more desirable after seeing other scenes.

Mr. and Mrs. Valdi Jackson and daughter, Joan arrived by Greyhound to visit Henry and Lil Sumarildason. They timed their visit to take in the Annual meeting and Thoroblot of the Icelandic Society held in the Nordic Room of the Scandinavian Centre. Other visitors to the city at the same time were Mrs. Rosa Benediktsson of Red Deer.

Robert and Rose Gabelhouse owners of the Vegreville Electric Hatcheries motored for a well-deserved holiday in Victoria, B.C.

Warmest birthday wishes go out to Mrs. Tom (Gertrude) Johnson on the occasion of her birthday, March 27th. Good health be yours.

News from Edna and Howard Garnett provides a new mailing address, Box 161, Sooke, B.C. where Howard is employed in the postal department.

Thanks for donations to the Scandinavian Centre News  
**LADIES AUXILIARY SKANDIA LODGE**  
S. Johnson  
Mrs. Minnie Nelson

## THE ICELANDERS IN CANADA

Judge Lindal was invited by the Centennial Commission to write this book as one of a series on Canada's ethnic groups. He ended up by telling the story of a race and by arguing a thesis. The larger aim of the book, hesitates in the prologue: "If one can speak of the Icelandic mind, this study will attempt to show to what extent that Icelandic mind has continued and been carried into the Canadian national stream."

His thesis is that there is peculiarity Icelandic blend of values, standards, mental traits and aspiration, development like a strain of wheat on the home island, and bearing a rich crop among the other strains on Canadian soil. He argues his case with sweeping generalities, illustrates it with precise detail, and supports it with quotations from historians, bards and scholars. One example alone, the behaviour of the first permanent Icelandic settlers in Canada suggests that there was indeed something different about these people. Within two years of their arrival on the barren shore of Lake Winnipeg, in 1875, they had published a newspaper, started a school, set up a democratic government and agreed on a constitution. These cold, hungry, homeless wanderers were true to the spirit which nine hundred years before had set up the Icelandic Parliament and Law.

The author has a vast subject, and his method of treating it may seem alarmingly thorough. However, in his prologue he warns you that you may want to skim the early historical chapters and concentrate on the recent developments. He begins firmly with the settlement of Iceland in 874 A.D., and recounts the Viking discovery of Greenland and Finland, the Golden Age of the eddas and sagas, the centuries of hardship that shaped and toughened the Icelandic mind. Not until the middle of Part II (there are eight) does he reach the first tentative Canadian settlements. In Part III he describes the creation of "Nyja-Island," which is now the Gimli district on Lake Winnipeg. He traces the expansion of settlers into the other western provinces, and brings the story up to date through the two world wars and the rise of the new generation of "Vestur-Islandingar."

As this is likely to be the definitive history of the subject, the author has clearly tried to set down all available details about early western settlements. He tells you when Skapti Arason and Arni Sveinsson brought a steam thresher for the settlement at Glenboro, how Gudbjorg Eyjolfson was gored by a ox when she was pregnant, and what was inside the 200-pound load of food and Christmas supplies that Eirikur and Gudmundur Thorsteinsson carried for thirty-three miles on their backs. The detail in these chapters will be too much for some and will be treasured by others. Obviously this was the chance of a lifetime to bring it all together into one book.

Beneath the biographical and historical detail moves the main theme, the Icelandic sense of mission and destiny. The author finds it not only in the history of his own race, but also in the history and position of Canada. He finds the theme summed up in a line of poetry by the leading Icelandic-Canadian poet S. G. Stephansson,

and he quotes it frequently in English translation: "Think not in years but in ages." The theme emerges with a Sibelius-like sense of triumph in his closing chapters. It fuses the author's love for both his ancestral land and his adopted land. He writes of a future in which "a part of the destiny of Iceland will have been transferred into the larger Canadian destiny. The converging of destinies will reveal the Icelandic mind in continuity."

The contributions of individual minds to Canadian life are recorded in long chapters in the final book. The author recalls, step by step, the setting up of the Chair of Icelandic at the University of Manitoba — and incidentally presents a strong case for Icelandic to be treated as a classic European language, both root and sister to English. He provides biographical sketches of some score of "Vestur-Islandingar" who have performed with distinction in Canadian business, law, government and medicine. (Incidentally, readers may be surprised to learn that the Canadian team, the Falcons which won the first Olympic Hockey championships in 1920, had seven second-generation Icelanders in its eight players, all of them from Winnipeg.)

This is not an easy book to read. Judge Lindal piles up details with legalistic precision. Often he seems to be trying to persuade by repetition, rather than letting his main evidence speak for itself. The intensely serious tone and the pedantic style often make the going heavy. But the author's distinguished mind and passionate convictions compensate for faults of style. Above all, it is a tremendous and fascinating story he has to tell.

## KING OLAV V TO VISIT U.S.A.

King Olav V of Norway has accepted an invitation from President Lyndon B. Johnson to pay an official visit to the United States. Following a two-day stay in Washington, D. C., April 24-25, the King will tour other parts of the country. It will be the first visit to USA by a King of Norway.

\* \* \*

An old country man was on his first visit to London. In one of the large stores, he stood wide-eyed by one of the lifts. A decrepit old woman stepped into the lift, the gates closed, a red light flashed, and she was gone. Moments later the lift descended and out stepped a most beautiful blonde. "Gee," said the old gent, scratching his head, "I wish I'd brought me old woman!"

\* \* \*

When little Patsie came home after a holiday at her Aunt's, she found that triplets had been added to the family.

"How silly of you, Mummy," she said. "You should have done the ordering — you know how Daddy stutters."

\* \* \*

Andy Whitewash, who had lived in the city all his life, was on holiday in the country. One day he came rushing back to his mother: "Mother," he exclaimed excitedly, "I've just seen a man who makes horses. He was just finishing one."

The mother was naturally rather curious, "What on earth do you mean?"

"Well, he was nailing the back feet on."

## Scandinavian Centre News

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## NORDSTJARNAN NO.575 FALUN

The February 3rd meeting of the Lodge was held at the home of John and Jennie Havanka. The attendance was good despite the very cold, blowing weather. Mrs. Carrie Thorsen was reported sick; we wish her a speedy recovery.

The next meeting of the Lodge will be held at the home of Reino and Helen Havanka on March 2nd.

Rumor has it that Buford are polishing the trophy for the Provincial Competitions being held March 9th at the Wetaskiwin Curling rink. Six sheets of artificial ice will be the scene of some stiff competition. Draws at 10 a.m. — 1:30 p.m. — 4 p.m. Banquet and dance following at the Legion Hall.

Cordial invitation is extended to all Vasa members to come and have a good time.

\* \* \*

Fred's hours became more and more irregular. One night his wife, becoming alarmed, wired to five of his best friends: "Fred not home. Is he spending the night with you?"

Fred's friends were loyal, a little too loyal. When Fred arrived home his wife had received five telegrams all reading "YES".



## DANIA DOINGS



Too bad that we did not see many more come out for our annual Carnival on February 9th. There were a lot of nice costumes and we are sure, that the judges had a very difficult time of judging. If we don't get more people out, we can't afford to get the Bohemians to play, even if the people say, we should get them every time, but we have to pay them a very high price. The people that showed up, had a nice time.

\* \* \*

On March 6th, we will have another Members Nite with a Whist-drive and a film will be shown this time. Coffee and pastry after the game. Please come and enjoy yourself at this social evening.

\* \* \*

On March 15 our monthly Dance in the Viking Room, 7:00 to 9:00 will be a Auction of Danish Gramofon Plader 78 R.P.M., some have never been used and others are as good as new, they are from the Danish Program, as Erik Pedersen can't use this kind at CKUA anymore and for the money we get from them, he will buy some new records for his Danish Program, by the way, do you remember to listen to this program every other Sunday, no excuse you don't know when he is on, as you can just look at the ad in this paper.

Try to listen and I am sure you will enjoy hearing it. There are approximately 500 records to be sold and there are some for every taste, so come early as we will start the sale not later than 7:15 and then prepare to stay for the Dance in the Viking Room after the Sale is over. It will be Carl Elgstrand's Orchestra this time.

\* \* \*

This is the time of year when you will think about your spring cleaning, and have some painting or paperhanging done, then please call John Svendsen, for free estimate, you will like him, a very pleasant personality, has not been here more than a couple of years and is now starting up for himself, he learned his trade in Denmark, why not help this young man get started, he is a family man and is anxious to make a go of it. See his advertisement in this paper and phone him today.

\* \* \*

"BIKUBEN" will meet Monday March 17th at 8:00 p.m. so let us see you ladies come to 10029-85 Avenue.

\* \* \*

Membership Draw at February Dance for \$20.00, Mr. and Mrs. Peter Larsen, 9528-134 Ave. Not collected.

### GRAMMOFON PLADER — AUKTION

ca. 500 Danske 78 R.P.M. Plader, som paa grund af C.K.U.A.'s nye Drejeskiver ikke mere kan bruges i det Danske Program.

Al slags musik fra Salmer til Revy Melodier vil blive solgt. Fredag, den 15 Marts fra 7 til 9.

SCANDINAVIAN CENTRE, 14220 - 125 AVENUE

### ANSGAR DANISH LUTHERAN CHURCH

96 Street & 108A Avenue

Phone 469-6123

Sunday March 3rd 11 a.m. Danish service. Holy Communion

Sunday March 10th 11 a.m. English service. Holy Communion

Sunday March 17th 11 a.m. Danish service

Sunday March 24th 11 a.m. English service

Sunday March 24 7.30 p.m. Danish service. After the service coffee in the basement.

Sunday March 31st 11 a.m. Danish service

### ON BOOKS AND ARTICLES

The American Scandinavian Retains a profile-in-depth of Per Bor editor. The current issue of this view—Autumn 1967.—Erik J. Friis, excellent quarterly magazine con- ton, Norway's Coalition Premier, by Johan Hambro. (5pp.) Dr. O.G. Landsverk previews a sensational book, Norse Medieval Cryptography in American Runic Inscriptions, which claims to present "irrefutable proof" that the controversial Kensington Stone is authentic. (12 pp., with tables and figures.) Also, Eight centuries of Copen-

hagen, by Steffen Linvald; Veijo Meri and the New Finnish Novel, by N. B. Stormbom; The Trusty Steed is Here to Stay, by Gunnar Bjornason—about the Icelandic horses; Harald Moltke and His Greenland Journey, by Magnhild Odvin Bukdahl; Dialect Hunting in Swedish America by Folke Hedblom. (Features—Scandinavians in America, The quarter's History, Books, Music, Art and Design, Travel.)

—Published by The American-Scandinavian Foundation, 27 East 73 Street, New York, N.Y. 10021 (\$6 a year)

### NEWS FROM THE DANISH CHURCH

Ansgar Young People's Group at work. Monday February 2nd the Young People's Group had a Valentine Bazaar in the basement at the Danish Church. They had decorated the hall with Valentine Hearts and they had gathered about 70 parcels which were auctioned away, but also a very fine bake-sale brought money to the young people's work. Not too many people showed up but the young people had everything so organized that they made a profit of about \$180. A thank you to all who helped the young people to arrange this evening. It was a real fine evening.

In March there will be a hayride at Pegasus Stables (50 St. and 42 Ave.) Saturday, March 9th. About further information contact Pastor Filtenborg (469-6123). Monday, March 11th, there will be an election of a board and Monday, March 25th a film and discussion about cancer. All teenagers are welcome to join the Ansgar Young People's Group.

A Supper and Bingo evening at the Scandinavian Centre will be held Friday, March 22, at 6:30 p.m. Again this year Ansgar Men's Club invites you to the supper and bingo evening. The Young Women's Club will make the meal: Flaskesteg, medisterpølser, rodkaal m.m., alekage and kaffe. Tickets are available at the Scandinavian Centre, Ole Knudsen (4909-115 St.) and Pastor Filtenborg (10532-48 St.).

Other meetings in March — Tuesday, March 5 — Ansgar Men's Club.

Wednesday March 6 — Ansgar Ladies' Aid.

Tuesday, March 19 — Bible Study Matt. Chapter 7.

Wednesday, March 20 — Ungdomskredsen.

Sunday, March 24 — After a Danish evening service coffee in the basement where the film "No Reason to Stay" will be shown. All teenagers and their parents should see this film.

Wednesday, March 27 — Young Women's Club at Mrs. Herdis Klostergaard, 4216-105 Ave. All other meetings will be held in the Danish Church.

A woman who had lived 61 of her 93 years in Alberta died in Edmonton recently.

Mrs. Anna Olson, a native of Sweden, lived on a homestead in the Chipman district in 1906 after her marriage to Andrew Olson, who also was Swedish.

Mr. Olson had arrived in Edmonton in 1901. His future wife had emigrated to the United States in 1895 before moving to Canada.

The couple retired to the city of Edmonton in 1945.

Mr. Olson died in 1956. In the past year Mrs. Olson has been an inmate of Lynnwood Auxiliary Hospital.

She is survived by three grandchildren; Eugene, Max and Dennis Schwartz of Merrymore district, and a sister-in-law, Mrs. M. Borstad of Athabasca.

### FINNISH SOCIETY



#### FINNISH FOOTNOTES

Finnish Society will hold a social evening and dance on March 2nd at the Scandinavian Centre, Dania Room, at 8 p.m. Everyone is cordially invited.

\* \* \*

The annual fishing contest will be held on March 17, at Lake St. Anne from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. For more information please phone Mr. V. Leino 454-2246 or Mr. V. Ristola 476-3483.

\* \* \*

Thanks to Mrs. Kuusela who was the hostess of February sewing circle. Next sewing circle will be held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. Sahuri, 16112-104 Ave. on March 11th, 1968. Everyone is cordially invited.

\* \* \*

Many thanks to Mrs. E. Rinta for flowers I received while in hospital.

— Onni Virtanen

\* \* \*

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Niska-Aro on the birth of their son in February.

\* \* \*

Speedy recovery to Mrs. E. Rinta who was in hospital recently.

### SCANDINAVIAN STUDENTS TO RECEIVE SCHOLARSHIP FROM GRATEFUL AMERICANS

Eight to ten young people from Denmark, Norway, Sweden and Finland will be granted scholarships worth 22,500 (Danish Kroner) each for study in the United States during the academic year beginning September 1968 by the Thanks to Scandinavia Fund, it was announced recently by its president, Richard Netter of New York.

Established in 1963, the Fund has already distributed 36 scholarship grants, supplemented in some cases by board and lodging at college fraternity houses.

Mr. Netter said the Fund was started to commemorate, as a moral guidepost for succeeding generations, the courage of the Scandinavian countries in protecting their Jewish communities from Hitler's "final solution" in World War II.

He made the announcement during a visit in Copenhagen of editors of Anglo-Jewish publications in the U.S. and Canada, in connection with the new SAS DC-8 service between Copenhagen and Israel. Also in the party was Elliott Arnold, author of "A Night of Watching", a novel about the Danish Resistance and the rescue of the Danish Jews which is a best-seller in North America.

By the end of 1968, which will mark the 25th anniversary of the rescue of the Danish Jewish community, the Fund hopes to grant up to 20 scholarships annually, Mr. Netter declared.

Over 2,500 persons have now contributed more than 3,000,000 (Swedish Kronor) to the Fund, he said. Donations have ranged from small amounts to large endowments — 187,500 (Danish Kroner) or more — of specifically named scholarships. These include the Arie and Ida Crown Scholarship endowed by Colonel Henry Crown and his son, Robert Crown of Chi-

cago; and the Dorothy F. Lichtenstein Scholarship endowed by Fred Fox of Philadelphia.

While the Fund began in New York as a private and informal effort by a few individuals, it has been put on a more organized footing during the past two years and fund raising activities have been carried out in such cities as Los Angeles, San Francisco, Portland, Seattle, Chicago, Boston, Philadelphia and Providence.

Mr. Netter paid special tribute to Victor Borge Danish-American pianist-comedian and national chairman of the Fund, who has given many concerts in its benefit. He also noted that Mr. Arnold has also taken part in fund-raising activities.

"We originally set a target of 7,500,000 (Danish Kroner) for the Fund", Mr. Netter said recently. "Now we have decided to eliminate any limit to the perpetual endowment for these scholarships."

"People do not contribute to the Fund because they feel that the young people of Scandinavia want or need charity. They do it because of a conviction that it is terribly imperative that the young people of both America and Scandinavia — the generations since World War II — have the sort of moral guidepost which the conduct of the Scandinavian countries provided in those years."

"We want the story of the rescue — like the story of the Resistance movements — to live as a reminder to man that his duty and responsibility to his fellows require affirmative acts, rather than complacency or acceptance."

The scholarships are administered and their recipients chosen by the American-Scandinavian Foundation, in co-operation with its sister organizations in Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden.

Board and lodging is also provided at certain colleges and universities by campus chapters of the Phi Sigma Delta fraternity.

Director Arne Z. Trosdahl, Oslo, has been elected new president of Norway's Commercial Federation, to succeed manager Herman Tank-Nielsen.

Fourty-six Yugoslav nurses recently arrived in Oslo to work one year at Oslo University Hospital and Ullevål Municipal Hospital.

Norwegian Conservative Press reports that its 41 member newspapers increased their circulation last year to a certified total of 730,532 copies.

Two of Norway's leading ceramics producers — Porsgrunds, Porselænsfabrik, Porsgrunn, and Egersund Fayanse Fabrik, Egersund — have agreed to merge. With some 700 employees, the new firm will have annual sales of 30 to 40 million kroner.

Teacher: Can anyone tell me what nitrates are?

Not-so-bright pupil: I don't know off-hand but they're cheaper than day rates.





## SOLGLYT SPOTLIGHT

### Coming events:

March 9 — Kontiki Dance, Dress Hawaiian, Oriental or casual. There will be door and spot prizes.

April 13 — Games and Film Night.

### SOLGLYT SICK REPORT

Ragna Sivertsen, Sick Committee Chairman, and Lydia Naverseth visited the following members, recently:

Ragna Arntzen in the General Hospital. Ruth Hammerstad in the Glenrose Hospital (doing fine). Mrs. Ingrid Lagergren in the Royal Alexandra Hospital, recovering from injuries received in a fall. Get well wishes are extended to each of you from the Lodge members.

### LEAP YEAR DANCE

The monthly General meeting of Solglyt Lodge No. 143 was held February 3, at the Scandinavian Centre. The Pot is now over \$16.00 so be sure to come out to the March 9 meeting — someone has to be lucky soon.

A Leap Year Dance followed the meeting with a nice turnout considering the very cold evening. Hosts were Iver and Martha Ven-oasen with their family assisting. Carl Elgstrand's orchestra provided the music.

### NORWEGIAN LANGUAGE CLUB

The meeting of February 12 was held at the Scandinavian Centre. Bingo winners for the evening were Del Melsness (\$3.00), Stan Hafso (\$2.00), also Inger Borgerson, John Iverson and Doreen Melsness. A sing-song was enjoyed by all with Del Melsness as pianist. This enjoyable evening was hosted by John and Marion Iverson. The hosts for Monday, March 11 will be Del and Doreen Melsness (466-3851).

Ragna Sivertsen enjoyed the weekend in Calgary, helping her Grandson, Jeff, celebrate his 4th birthday.

### SUNRAY LODGE NEWS

The Sons of Norway, Sunray Junior Lodge, enjoyed a successful Hayride on January 12. They are hoping to hold a dance in the near future.

The Saga Dancers have been very busy the past while, with rehearsals for Scandapades.

Warren Clark's ticket selling team sold the most tickets for Scandapades 101. Sunray Lodge made \$25.00 while Warren made \$20.00 for selling the majority of the tickets.

Please note that Lil Larsen is the new Assistant Marshall, not Rita Swelina as stated in last months Scandinavian News.

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### NORWAY MAKES MORE 'UNEXPLORED' BEAUTY ACCESSIBLE TO VISITORS

It seems hard to believe that a country as popular with tourists as Norway can still have vast "undiscovered" areas of scenic beauty awaiting the vacationer, but it does and the most amazing fact is that these practically unspoiled attractions are not in some remote, off-the-beaten-path place but close by, within easy reach of bus or automobile. This is only one of many surprises Norway has in store for visitors.

Telemark, the beautiful province in southern Norway, is a case in point. From a map, one might guess that this is surely where everyone goes, because it lies between Oslo, the Viking capital, and both Bergen and Stavanger, west coast ports and gateways to the fjords. Telemark is closer to the rest of Scandinavia than many of Norway's better-known regions, and the map also shows mountains, glaciers, waterfalls, fjords, rivers, lakes and other features which should mark this as "Norway in a nutshell". Even the name rings a bell but you know it from skiing, because this is the birthplace of the "Telemark turn" and the modern sport.

How is it, then, that Telemark is still classified as "undiscovered"? The answer is largely in Norway's fascinating mountain geography which, until now, has kept Telemark almost cloistered from the tourist world. Twisting mountain passes have kept the pace too slow for the modern motorist or bus rider, and from November to May the passes were closed by snow altogether. Trains don't touch much of Telemark, and while planes certainly fly over they can't provide a close look at its attractions, which include a rich folklore in a setting of centuries-old farms and stave churches.

The Norwegians have found the solution in an old philosophy with modern overtones: "If the mountain won't come to Mahomet, cut a tunnel through it." They have, in fact, cut six tunnels which bypass some scenic but obstructive roads, reduce driving time considerably and provide a weather-protected, all-year motor route between Oslo and Bergen. Now one can explore Telemark in varied tours of three days or more and without foregoing the other popular sights the tourist wants to see.

From Bergen, the Telemark route begins with a drive through delightful mountain scenery down the stupendous Tokagjel canyon to the blue Hardanger fjord as far as Kvanndal and across by ferry to Kinsarvik. Then, instead of following the traditional northern arc of the fjord tours, you turn southward along another arm of the Hardanger, pass the Latefoss waterfall and climb the mountain to Seljestad. From this popular mountain resort, the choice is either to drive across the old scenic, 3,505 ft. high Seljestad pass (closed part of the year) or save time by using the new, shorter route through the 1,356 yard long Seljestad tunnel and then the three mile long Roldal tunnel, after which the typical Telemark terrain begins to unfold.

Ahead are still such unique sights as Morgedal, skiing's birthplace; Bolkesjo, resort with fine views of Telemark scenery; Kongsberg, picturesque silver mining town; Drammen, with a fascinating

The new official Province of Alberta 1968 road maps are now available.

The new maps are on a scale of one inch to 25 miles, and indicate all 6,700 miles of major highways in the province as well as all important secondary and forestry roads. Also shown are the locations of approximately 300 campsites, along with ski areas, points of interest and a thousand communities.

Additional information is carried regarding points of interest, the Alaska and Mackenzie Highways, general information of interest and inset maps of the major cities.

Compiled and drawn by the Surveys Branch, Department of Highways, the maps are available free of charge by contacting the Alberta Government Travel Bureau, Room 1629, Centennial Building, Edmonton, Alberta. It might be a nice gesture to send a copy to a tourist friend to make sure their trip to Alberta goes smoothly.

road that corkscrews inside a mountain; and, of course, Oslo. En route there are at least 30 recommended resort hotels for your comfort.

Norway promises new surprises in other directions, too. Facilities in North Norway have improved further, particularly for viewing the Midnight Sun. The new Ronvikfjell Restaurant, for example, a popular vantage point, adds a touch of elegance to the Arctic. More of the dual-purpose student hotels have been added in Norway; these are university residences during the school year and top-standard hotels in summer. They are conveniently located, and rates are reasonable. Norway's ski areas also are making great strides, and now Geilo and Oppdal have joined Voss in catering to the winter whims of American visitors.

Literature on Norway is available from the Scandinavian National Travel Offices, Scandinavian Travel Offices, Scandinavia House, 505 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10017 or from 612 S Flower St., Los Angeles, Calif. 90017.

### STAR STUDDED PROGRAM

FOR THE SIXTEENTH INTERNATIONAL BERGEN FESTIVAL IN NORWAY

\* \* \*

The 16th International Bergen Festival of music, drama, folklore, opera and ballet will take place in Norway from May 22 to June 5, and the program is even more varied and star-studded than ever before.

Ballet is a strong feature of the 1968 program, presented by the Canadian National Ballet and the Hungarian State Opera Ballet Company, whilst the Swedish Cramer Ballet Company will present a Scandinavian folklore program.

The concert program includes performances by the Moscow Philharmonic Orchestra under Kirill Kondrashin, the Bergen Symphony Orchestra under David Oistrakh as well as Sixten Ehrling, church concert by the German Kolner Chamber Orchestra and Norwegian chamber music by the Hindar Quartet.

Among the most famous soloists are David Oistrakh and Oleg Kagan (violin), Stephen Bishop, Svjatoslav Richter and Claudio Arrau (piano), Felicia Weathers, Aase Nordmo Lovberg, Lilyana Bareva and Heather Harper (soprano) and many others.

Bergen's famous Viking castle, the Haaken's Hall, which was built in 1250, will be the venue for several concerts, and there will also be daily recitals at Trollhaugen-Grieg's home which is now a museum - where Grieg's music will be played on the Master's own grand piano. The colorful "Fana Folklore" excursion with folk music and folk dancing will again be available to all visitors. A complete program for the 1968 International Bergen Festival is available without cost from the Scandinavian National Travel Offices, 505 Fifth Ave, New York NY 10017 or from 612 S Flower St., Los Angeles, Calif. 90017.

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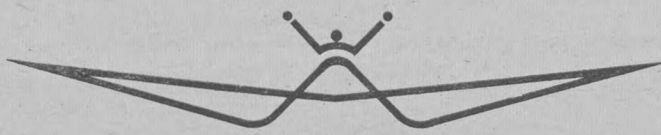
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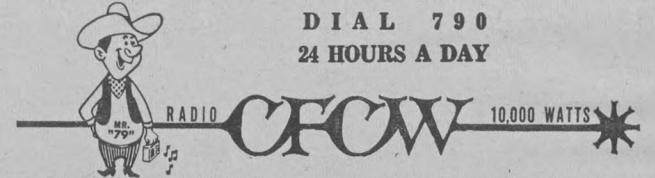
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Buford News

Our Lodge was pleased to have the District Secretary of Alberta, Mr. Bert Johnson of Calgary and John and Annie Holmlund of Falun attend our January meeting.

Guests at the home of Clair and Avis Pearson one January week-end were the Raymond Bersons and Willard Modins of Edmonton.

Sympathy is extended to Mr. and Mrs. Algot Pearson and their families (the Bernard Johnsons, Harry Hansons and Bobby Pearsons) Algot's brother Willie Pearson and his Sister-in-law Mrs. Pauline Pearson passed away in January.

D. M. Floyd Modin and his wife Peggy in January paid an official visit to the Lindholmen Lodge 670 in Medicine Hat. Our D. M. helped with the installation of their officers for the 1968.

Gerda and Frankie Erickson spent an afternoon visiting Gerda's Dad Mr. Carl Osbak at Genesee.

It is nice to see Lloyd Pearson at home again and doing nicely after spending 10 days in the Leduc Hospital. Lloyd says many thanks for the cards received and visits from his friends while hospitalized.

Tillie and Emil Kvarnberg and Hildur and Algot Pearson on Feb. 7th spent an enjoyable afternoon with their friend Mr. Halvor Halverson of Warburg on the occasion of his 81st birthday.

Bill and Edna Pederson; Annie Evanson; Gladys and Percy Sandstrom on Jan. 31st attended in Edmonton the Bish-Dixon wedding at the Metropolitan United Church and the reception which followed at the Caravan Motor Hotel.

Eddie and Violet Nystrom have moved their trailer to Drayton Valley where Eddie is employed by an oil company.

The Calmar Hall has been booked for April 26 when our Lodge will have its annual Smorgasbord, Program and Dance.

The Pearsons (Ellen, Ray, Angela, Lloyd and Avis) spent a Friday at Bruce visiting Avis' mother Mrs. M. Benson and the Andrew Erickson family.

Alice Evanson Mavis Hamilton and Victor Wold attended the Leduc Teacher's Convention at the Macdonald Hotel, Edmonton, on Feb. 22nd and 23rd.

Gladys and Percy Sandstrom had Gladys' niece Susan Faulkner an air stewardess from Montreal pay them a visit.

Tillie and Emil Kvarnberg attended the colorful Scandapades Show and enjoyed it immensely.

Irma Anderson had her Aunt Mrs. Daisy Swanson of Edmonton spend a few days with her.

This is the curling season and many of our curling members have made a good showing in various spiels held locally. Gunhild Ladouceur skipped her team to take top honors in the Royal Purple Curling Spiel held in Breton. Victor Wold and his team got in on the prizes in the Calmar Men's Open Spiel; Vernon Pearson and

Senior commercial school students in ten Norwegian towns recently presented Crown Prince Harold with a check for 110,000 kroner. They collected the money for Handicapped Children, now being established by the Norwegian Red Cross near Kristiansand.

Foreign trade statistics for January-May, 1967 show that ships excluded, Norwegian imports were valued at 6613 million kroner, while exports came to 4476 millionkroner, as against 1702 million in the corresponding five months of last year.

Elektrokemisk A/S, Oslo, on the 50th anniversary of its subsidiary Askaa Verk, donated 100,000 kroner and a 3-acre lot to the Cerebral Palsy Association in Kristiansand to build a boarding school and treatment home for CP victims.

Bill: "Why do you think Joe is so stupid?"

Bob: "Well, when he saw a poster in the post office that said Man Wanted for Robbery In New York he applied for the job."

When all the blonde girls start cheering at the football game would you say the bleachers went wild,

And did you hear about the gal who finally married an X-ray technician? Yes, he was the only one who could ever see anything in her.

Sally: Were you able to find a parking spot?

Ann: Yes, right in front of the police station.

Sally But why did you park there?

Ann: A sign said; "Fine For Parking".

Baby-sitter: "Why did you put this frog in your little sister's bed? Problem chill: "Because I could not find a mouse."

Melvin Gellert won prizes in the Thorsby Farmer's Spiel, Irma Anderson, Peggy Modin and Helga Høyen each captured prizes in the Ladies' Curling Spiel at Calmar and the team Alice Evanson and Mavis Hamilton played on got in on the prizes in the Local Teacher's Spiel at Calmar. Congratulations to all.

Snorri Sturluson, Iceland's historian and statesman of the 13th century, composed his famed Prose Edda while relaxing in an outdoor bath dug in the ground and fed by a hot spring.

Markins Magasin, the first large supermarket in South Norway, was recently opened at Kristiansand. The total floorspace is about 23,000 square feet, of which the food department occupies 5,000.

Under an agreement with US Air Force, all Norwegian Air Force aviators will be trained in USA from mid-year 1968, when the present training pact with Canada ends. Since 1951, nearly 500 Norwegian Military pilots and 50 navigators have received training in Canada.

Why did the little moron take sugar to bed with him? Because he wanted to have sweet dreams.

Jane: Have you ever seen a buffalo in a cherry tree?

Ron: No, I haven't.

Jane: They sure hide well, don't they.

The Norwegian Parliament has approved a Government proposal that 8 state institutions, with 417 full-time and 300 part-time employees, are to be moved out of Oslo over a period of 5-10 years.

In addition to A/S Norsk Tipping, the approved dispersal plan covers the following institutions: the State Explosives Inspection — to Vestfold; the Bank of Norway bill printing plant — to Kongsberg; the State Agricultural Chemistry Station — to Moss/Sarpsborg; Norway's Geographic Survey — location yet to be decided; the Agricultural Research Office, State Consultants in the ministry of Agriculture, and the Forestry Appraisal Office — all to As, site of the Norwegian Agricultural College.

Some 180 state institutions, with about 30,000 employees, are presently located in Oslo.

Sign on a Volkswagen factory: "Think big, and you're fired.,,"

Boy: May I kiss you? (No answer)

Boy: May I kiss you? (No answer)

Boy: Are you deaf?

Girl: No, are you paralyzed?

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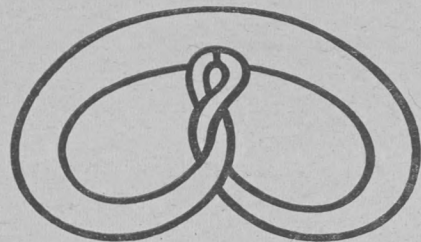
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91st St., celebrated their golden  
anniversary recently.Mr. Ogren was born in Jamt-  
land, Sweden in 1891.He came to Canada in 1912, and  
after attending the Olds School of  
Agriculture, he took up farming  
in the Sounding Lake district.Mr. Ogren married Daveda Ot-  
tilia Edlund who was born in the  
Wetaskiwin district in 1918. They  
farmed in the Lessard area before  
moving to Edmonton in 1939.Mr. Ogren worked for Aircraft  
Repair Company in Edmonton for  
three years, retiring in 1959.Mr. and Mrs. Ogren have one  
son, two grandchildren and two  
great-grandchildren.Open house was held at their  
home to honor the occasion.Congratulations were received  
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cared for in the Bay Nursery, 2nd.



**FEBRUARY MEETING**

The regular monthly meeting of Vasa Lodge Skandia was opened at 7:05 p.m. in the Nordic Room of the Scandinavian Centre. Chairman Peter Johnson was in the chair. Several of the younger members were present to assist the officers in their duties. Carol Banks took the post of Treasurer, Ken Banks was Vice-Chairman, Fae Johnson was Chaplain, and Valerie Larson Master of Ceremonies. Three generations from one family were active at the meeting. Chaplain Svea Erickson, her daughter Martha Kay, who is assistant secretary and Martha's daughter Joyce was lending a hand to her mother.

Members who were reported sick were May Rushton and Victor Anderson.

Year end reports were given by the Drill Team, and the Land Committee.

Verna Larson reported that Scandapades had been a financial success and thanked all who participated and helped.

Assistant financial secretary Doreen Nyroos, and Master of Ceremonies Erling Winqvist were installed into their offices by Chairman Peter Johnson.

The Land Committee for 1968 includes: Ed Bergquist, Eric Pierre, Harold Markstrom, Erling Winqvist, Willard Modin and Lennart Petersson.

Members of the Nominating Committee are: Harold Markstrom, Bud Holmgren and Eric Engvall.

Those responsible for meeting prospective members are Earl and Florence Erickson, Emil and Mildred Weiss, and Eric and Hansine Pierre.

Greetings from Mons and Margaret Eliasson were read.

A twenty-five year membership pin was presented to Brother Nils Carlson by chairman Peter Johnson. Brother Carlson was in from Edson for the occasion.

A past-Chairman's pin was presented to Peter Johnson by Raul Nyroos.

Some dates to remember are: March 9 — District Curling Spiel to be held in Wetaskiwin.

March 16 — Curling Bonspiel at Calmar.

May 4 — District Bowling Tournament at Lethbridge.

The meeting was followed by a lovely lunch and coffee served by Emma Krag, Florence Erickson, Gertie Holmgren, and Carol McCrae.

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The March meeting of the Women's Auxiliary will be held Saturday, March 23rd, at 8:00 p.m. in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Markstrom, 10535 - Lauderdale Road.

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Vasa's next meeting will be Saturday March 2, at 7:00 p.m. in the Nordic Room of the Scandinavian Centre. A wine tasting party will be held after the meeting. So, if you missed last year's, now is the time to gather up a group and come out to taste the grape.

**THE VASA SKI RUN**

Vasaloppet takes place the first Sunday in March in Dalarna, in Sweden. This unique ski race runs for 54 rugged miles from Salen near the Norwegian border to the old town of Mora on the southern shore of Siljan. It follows the route which Gustav Vasa took more than four hundred years ago.

The race itself highlights a dramatic event which was a turning point in Sweden's history. Gustav Erickson Vasa, a young man from

one of Sweden's leading families, had returned to Stockholm after a stay abroad, and found that a fearful event had taken place, "Stockholm's blodhad." Sweden was then under Danish rule and Danish officials had massacred the leading persons in Sweden, evidently to prevent an insurrection. Young Gustav was on their list also, but he fled up to the wilderness of Dalarna, where he tried to arouse the independent and patriotic farmers of that province to arm themselves to rise against the Danish oppressors. But the men of Dalarna paid little heed to him, and, discouraged, he continued his flight on skis toward Norway.

No sooner had he left than other persons came from Stockholm, corroborated what he had told, and convinced the people that they must take up arms against the tyrants, and that Gustav Vasa was the man to lead them. They sent two skiers after him, and near the border of Norway they caught up with him, told him the people were behind him and asked him to come back and lead them in the fight. He did, and after many hard battles the Swedish people drove out the Danes, and the nation has been independent and unified ever since. This was the year 1521. In 1523 Gustav Vasa was chosen King, and his long and wise reign began the modern era in Sweden.

A newspaper editor, Anders Pers, first proposed holding Vasaloppet along the route taken by Gustav, as a salute to this heroic and significant part of Sweden's history. The idea caught on. The first race was run March 19, 1922, and has continued every year since.

The race committee sets rigid requirements for the entrants to the 54-mile race, for this is no child's play. Participants must be male, physically fit, 22 years or older, and sponsored by a recognized sports club.

The event draws, not only athletes, but people from every walk of life. They train hard for the race for at least a year. More than a third of the contestants are over 40 and many celebrate their fiftieth birthday by entering this race. To win this race is a great honor, but for the majority of participants winning is not the main objective; just having participated is the important thing, and earning the certificate of having finished the race. Not everyone does. Last year 6857 men, ranging from 22 years old to over 60, entered but 1050 had to drop out.

The winner earns a gold medal and those who finish within half the time again of the victor get inexpensive medals. All the rest who finish the race get a certificate attesting this, which they value highly.

For a Swede this is a sort of national Mecca, a pilgrimage which adds to his stature as a son of Sweden and as a man.

In 1948 the event became international when some Finnish athletes entered, and last year entrants from 13 countries participated.

Vasaloppet began on a fairly small scale but nowadays it is a big thing.

**VASA GLIMPSES**

Thursday, February 1st was Svea Erickson's 78th birthday. Several of her good friends dropped in to help her celebrate.

There must be some great attraction South of the Border as so many of our members have been, are, or will be, down there. Larry and Elsie Comin and Virginia and Milton Fawcett were holidaying together. Carol and Marty McCrae were going, and Willard and Evelyn Modin are there.

Congratulations to Judy and Calvin Cartwright on the birth of their daughter Charlene, February 10. Proud Grandparents are Harold and Minnie Markstrom.

**SCANDINAVIANS WORKING TOWARD CLOSER TIES**

There's a new dawn approaching for the European Land of the Midnight Sun.

Once torn by war and divided by bitterness, Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden are now working toward closer ties.

Even during their unsettled past, the countries of the European north were bound together by ties of culture, legal concepts and their ways of life. Today they are striving for co-operation in the economic, judicial, cultural and social fields.

The biggest advance toward their goal was the formation of the Nordic Council in 1953. This unifying body has since increased co-operation on many levels.

**FEW TRAVEL CONTROLS**

Travel through the north, for example, is relatively free of controls. Passports are not required by nationals of the northern countries — Austria, France, Switzerland and West Germany. For all other visitors the north forms one passport zone, and customs checks are at a minimum.

Foreign motorists pass inspection only when entering the northern zone. Traffic regulations and road signs have been standardized. There is a close co-operation among the countries on traffic research, accident studies and road-building techniques.

One recent example of co-operation is publication of the book, Five Northern Countries Pull Together, now being distributed in Canada.

**SLOWLY, SURELY**

In the dawn of history, it says, "our forefathers were just as warlike and as intent on dominating one another as men everywhere. Petty kingdoms flourished, protected by distance, and later on the individualist Vikings were no more inclined than their ancestors to accept a unifying national king."

One country, then another, gained ascendancy in the north only to lose its power. As late as 1905, Norway seceded from a union with Sweden, and in 1944, a union between Iceland and Denmark was dissolved.

Economically and socially, the north has taken great steps toward developing co-operation. Northern Nationals enjoy a common labor market with no need of passports or working permits. A person residing in a northern country other than his own benefits from the social security system of the host country, providing he has worked the required length of time.

To facilitate communications, the north forms a single telegraph and postal zone. There are special low rates for intra-north telegrams, telephone calls and other forms of telecommunication.

**BULLETIN BOARD**

**SCANDINAVIAN CENTRE — 14220 - 125 AVE.**  
**FOR BOOKINGS**  
**Phone The Manager — Tom Nielsen**  
**455-4355 — if no answer 439-0506**

**FINNISH SOCIETY**

SOCIAL EVENING and DANCE

Saturday, March 2nd at 8:00 p.m.

Scandinavian Centre, 14220 - 125 Ave.

REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE EVERYONE WELCOME

**DANIA**

March 6th at 8:00 p.m. Members Nite with Film and Whist  
\$1.50 per person including coffee and pastry.

March 15th. Auction of Danish Records from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.  
DANCE from 9:00 to 1:00 a.m. Carl Elgstrand's Orchestra.

SCANDINAVIAN CENTRE, 14220 - 125 AVE.

SPOT PRIZES REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE

BRING YOUR FRIENDS!

**SONS OF NORWAY****KONTIKI NITE DANCE**

Saturday, March 9th 9:00 to 12:00

Scandinavian Centre, VIKING ROOM  
14220 - 125 Ave

\$1.50 per person

Dress Hawaii

Door Prizes

Spot Prizes

REFRESHMENTS

**FREJA HANDBALL CLUB****DANCE**

Saturday, March 9th from 8 to 12:00

SOUTH SIDE LEGION, 10416 - 81 AVENUE

Bring your friends for a good time

**ICELANDIC SOCIETY****ST. PATRICKS DANCE**

MARCH 16th., 8:30 p.m.

Scandinavian Centre, 14220 - 125 Ave.

MUSIC BY SWINGTONES

\$2.00 per person

Lunch Served

**CULTURAL LEVEL**

The greatest and most extensive co-operation is on the cultural level among people who come together to share common interests. Many cultural programs have been initiated by the Nordic Council Cultural Commission and the individual countries.

While the response of the people has been great, the secret of cultural co-operation is that it operates on a personal and private level.

The countries of the north, gradually achieving unification on cultural, social and economic levels, without sacrificing their independence or individuality, have a unique movement in the cold war era.

Bingo and supper evening at the Scandinavian Centre sponsored by Ansgar Men's Club, Friday March 22nd at 6:30 p.m. Supper tickets at \$1.50 are available at the Scandinavian Centre, at Mr. Ole Knudsen's (4909-115 St.) and at Pastor Filtenborg (10532 - 48 St.).

Anders Jahre's Fund for the Promotion of Science has announced grant awards totalling 1,225,000 kroner for research projects in the fields of medicine, law, chemistry, and shipbuilding.